

I would like to submit the following written testimony for the 0800, 4/1/15 hearing on Senate Bill 941 (SB 941):

Past experience has shown that laws such as those purposed in SB 941 do not effect criminals.

Our current Federal Background Check System has not proved to be very effective in keeping firearms out of the hands of criminals. Before he left office Governor Kitzhaber ordered the Oregon State Police to investigate each case where people were denied when they tried to purchase a firearm. In the vast majority of cases the denial was the result of some type of system failure. Very few criminals were arrested as a result of his policy.

The State of Oregon should not use our resources to implement ineffective bills. Here in Albany we have some schools providing breakfast for children who would otherwise go without eating. Our resources should be directed toward creating good jobs for the parents of these children. As I am sure you all know, that example is only one of the important problems facing our state.

Senator Doug Whitsett discussed Senate Bill 941 in his 3/30/15 newsletter. He pointed out that SB 941 contains an emergency clause that will prohibit the bill from being referred to the people for a statewide vote. The supporters of SB 941 seem to be fearful that a majority of Oregonians would not support the bill.

Putting a clause of that type into any bill to insure Oregonians do not get a chance to vote on it shows disregard for our democratic process.

Please do not support SB 941.

Lloyd Fenwick